

Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method of swaging a spherical bearing comprising a ball and a bearing housing, the method comprising ~~the steps of~~:
providing a ball and a bearing housing to be swaged around the ball;
creating a temperature differential between the temperature of the housing and the temperature of the ball, the ball being at a lower temperature than the housing such that the relative size of the ball with respect to the housing decreases;
inserting the ball in the housing;
swaging the housing around the ball, the ball being cooler than the housing during the swaging process;
allowing the ball and housing to return to ambient temperature such that the relative size of the ball with respect to the housing increases.
2. (Original) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the ball is manufactured of a first material and the housing is manufactured of a second material, the two materials being different from one another.
3. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein the temperature differential is created by cooling the ball.
4. (Original) A method according to Claim 3, wherein the ball is cooled to below 0°C.
5. (Original) A method according to Claim 4, wherein the ball is cooled by liquid nitrogen.
6. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any preceding claim~~ Claim 1, wherein the temperature differential is caused by heating the housing.

7. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any preceding claim~~ Claim 1, wherein the temperature differential is caused by heating the housing and cooling the ball.

8. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any preceding claim~~ Claim 1, wherein the act of swaging step ~~is~~ comprises a taper die swaging process.

9. (Canceled)

10. (New) A method according to Claim 2, wherein the temperature differential is created by cooling the ball.

11. (New) A method according to Claim 2, wherein the temperature differential is caused by heating the housing.

12. (New) A method according to Claim 3, wherein the temperature differential also is caused by heating the housing.

13. (New) A method according to Claim 4, wherein the temperature differential also is caused by heating the housing.

14. (New) A method according to Claim 5, wherein the temperature differential also is caused by heating the housing.

15. (New) A method according to Claim 2, wherein the temperature differential is caused by heating the housing and cooling the ball.

16. (New) A method according to Claim 15, wherein the ball is cooled to below 0°C.

17. (New) A method according to Claim 16, wherein the ball is cooled by liquid nitrogen.

18. (New) A method according to Claim 2, wherein the act of swaging comprises a taper die swaging process.

19. (New) A method according to Claim 3, wherein the act of swaging comprises a taper die swaging process.

20. (New) A method according to Claim 6, wherein the act of swaging comprises a taper die swaging process.

21. (New) A method according to Claim 7, wherein the act of swaging comprises a taper die swaging process.